feasibility report on the conservation, beautification, restoration and upgradation of the monument and the surrounding areas. The project shall be carried out by Archaeological Survey of India with the approval and under the guidance of Project Implementation Committee (PIC) under the Chairmanship of the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India.

(e) Private-public participation is encouraged to develop environs around the monuments and to provide basic tourist amenities wherever necessary.

Security of foreign tourists

1348. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the steep fall in the arrival of international tourists into the country;

(b) if so, the estimated loss of foreign exchange; and

(c) whether Government are taking any steps to assure foreign tourists of security and other related aspects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) There has been a decline of 6.9% in foreign tourist arrivals during the year 2002 as compared to the year 2001. The foreign exchange earning has, however, increased from Rs. 14344 crores in the year 2001 to Rs. 14420 crores in the year 2002.

(c) The foreign tourists have been reassured through leading tour operators and media campaigns that India is a safe destination in order to allay the fears of tourists about the region.

Tourist places in A.P.

1349. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the tourists visited Andhra Pradesh for treatments through the use of herbs in Krishna district and paralysis treatment as practised in Chirala and other famed Allopathic and Indian Medicine treatments;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has agreed to attract more tourist in Andhra Pradesh for traditional system of treatment;

(c) whether Government has agreed to provide help and assistance to develop tourist centres in these places; and

(d) if so, what are the help and assistance that will be provided to the Andhra Pradesh in improving tourist centres in these places?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) During the Tenth Five Year Plan, Department of Tourism, Government of India has decided to identify integrated travel circuits in the country each year. These circuits will be finalised and developed in close coordination and partnership with the State/UT Governments and the concerned Government of India Departments. In addition to this it is also proposed to identify one major destination in each State/UT Administration, each year in consultation with them for overall development including the State of Andhra Pradesh. No specific proposal for development of infrastructure at these places has been received by the Department of Tourism from the State Government.

Increase in the tourist arrival

1350. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the tourism and civil aviation industries taking a knock after the 11th September, 2001, the tourism sector have had a reversal of trends in the last two months;

(b) if so, whether the foreign tourist arrival have picked up by 16 per cent since November;

(c) if so, to what extent it has increased; and

(d) to what extent the tourism sector has improved its position from November, 2002 to till now?